

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SCCT-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 OMB-01

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 BIB-01 OES-06 IO-13 /099 W

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R 221215Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7477

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 4827

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR YO

SUBJ: YUGOSLAV INTERNAL SECURITY REPORT FOR 1975

1. SUMMARY: IN ADDRESS TO FEDERAL CHAMBER OF JUL 20
INTERIOR SECRETARY HERLJEVIC CRITICIZED DISTORTIONS OF
YUGOSLAV LIFE, "COMINFORMIST EMIGRANTS" AND THEIR INTERNAL
COLLEAGUES, "FASCIST" TERRORISTS AND THEIR ABILITY TO
FUNCTION FREELY AGAINST YUGOSLAV INSTITUTIONS OVERSEAS,
AND FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES WORKING IN COUNTRY AND
RECRUITING YUGOSLAVS. HE GAVE FIGURES ON ARRESTS OF
PERSONS CONNECTED WITH "COMINFORMIST EMIGRANTS" WHO WERE
ATTEMPTING "TO OVERTHROW SELF-MANAGEMENT SYSTEM" AND STATED
THAT 41 OTHERS EITHER WERE CONVICTED OR ARE UNDER INVESTI-
GATION FOR SPYING. HERLJEVIC WAS OTHERWISE SPARE ON DETAILS AND
GAVE NO REFERENCE TO SPECIFIC FOREIGN CONNECTIONS.
CLEARLY, HOWEVER, SOVIETS ARE SINGLED OUT IN THEIR
RELATION TO "COMINFORMISTS", AND PERHAPS EVEN TO "FOREIGN
INTELLIGENCE SERVICES". WELL-KNOWN YUGOSLAV ANTIPATHY
TO OUTSIDE "PRESSURE" WAS ALSO ON HERLJEVIC'S LIST,
AS WAS CHURCH FOR TRYING TO EXPAND ITS INFLUENCE
BEYOND ITS PERMITTED AREA OF ACTIVITY. IN A SUBSEQUENT
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REPORT, PUBLIC PROSECUTOR DISCUSSED HIS CASELOAD,

INCLUDING "POLITICAL CRIMES". END SUMMARY.

2. ALL PAPERS JUL 21 REPORT ON JUL 20 SPEECH TO YUGOSLAV FEDERAL CHAMBER BY INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECRETARY FRANJO HERLJEVIC ON THE WORK OF THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECRETARIAT IN 1975. AFTER DECLARING SECURITY ORGANS HAD STRENGTHENED THEIR EFFECTIVENESS, HE LAUNCHED INTO ATTACK ON ENEMIES ATTEMPTING TO "UNDERMINE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER". HE CRITICIZED FIRST "CERTAIN REACTIONARY FORCES FROM ABROAD AND INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS IN THE COUNTRY" WHO TRY TO DISTORT THE PICTURE OF LIFE IN YUGOSLAVIA. STATED THAT "MOVES BY CERTAIN FOREIGN FACTORS IN CONNECTION WITH SOCIAL-POLITICAL AND OTHER MEASURES TAKEN TOWARDS INDIVIDUALS IN OUR COUNTRY REPRESENT, IN REALITY, ATTEMPTS TO EXERCISE PRESSURE AND INTERFERENCE IN OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS". SAID THERE IS NO NEED TO ENGAGE IN POLEMICS ON THIS ISSUE SINCE "YUGOSLAVIA IS AN OPEN COUNTRY" AND THAT WITH 100 MILLION REGISTERED BORDER CROSSINGS ANNUALLY, "POLITICAL SITUATION AND STABILITY OF LAW AND ORDER" CAN EASILY BE OBSERVED.

3. HERLJEVIC STATED THAT IN THE PAST TWO YEARS "13 ILLEGAL GROUPS" COMPRISING 237 PERSONS HAVE BEEN DETECTED. OF THESE 105 "ACTED FROM BUREAUCRATIC-DOGMATIC POSITIONS", TRYING TO "OVERTHROW THE SELF-MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND TO ESTABLISH A BUREAUCRATIC-ETATIST REGIME." HE SAID THESE WERE CONNECTED WITH "COMINFORMIST EMIGRANTS", WHO IN "DEVELOPING THEIR ANTI-YUGOSLAV ACTIVITY...HAVE THE SUPPORT OF CERTAIN FORCES ABROAD". IT IS AN ILLUSION, HE SAID, TO "COUNT UPON THE SO-CALLED FORCES IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACHIEVING HOSTILE AIMS TOWARDS YUGOSLAVIA."

4. HE NEXT SHOWED SOME EXASPERATION WITH THE CHURCH: "CONTRARY TO THE EFFORT OF AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE CLERGY FOR GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CHURCH AND STATE, THERE ARE INDIVIDUALS IN RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES WHO ARE MISUSING RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES." NAMELY, THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO IMPOSE THEMSELVES IN OTHER SECTORS, FOR EXAMPLE, AS "PARTNERS OF SELF-MANAGING

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ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITIES."

5. HERLJEVIC NOTED THAT EFFICIENT YUGOSLAV SECURITY ORGANS ARE SUPPRESSING THE ACTIVITY OF "FASCIST EMIGRANTS" IN YUGOSLAVIA SO THAT THEY ARE CARRYING OUT "TERRORIST ACTS ABROAD", WITH 30 ATTACKS COUNTED IN THE LAST 18 MONTHS. HE SAID YUGOSLAVS CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY THESE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BELGRADE 4827

EMIGRANTS CAN FUNCTION FREELY AND EVEN ENJOY "SUPPORT OF OFFICIAL ORGANS" IN COUNTRIES "WHICH OTHERWISE PRESENT THEMSELVES AS BEING FRIENDLY TOWARDS US." TO COUNTERACT THESE ACTIVITIES, HE STATED, YUGOSLAVS "ARE MAKING EFFORTS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ESTABLISHING COOPERATION WITH SECURITY ORGANS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES, AND THIS COOPERATION IS ALREADY PRODUCING GOOD RESULTS."

6. FINALLY HE IS CRITICAL OF "FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES" WHICH "ARE EXPLORING AND COLLECTING DATA FROM (YUGOSLAV) LIFE,...TRYING TO CREATE STRONGHOLDS IN VARIOUS ENVIRONMENTS AND ENLIST SOME OF OUR CITIZENS, ...ORGANIZING AND CARRYING OUT PROPAGANDA-PSYCHOLOGICAL ACTIVITY AND INDOCTRINATION TOWARDS OUR CITIZENS,... AND (IN DOING ALL THIS, ARE) MISUSING WELL-DEVELOPED FORMS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF OUR COUNTRY, CERTAIN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, SOJOURNS OF OUR CITIZENS ABROAD, EXCHANGES OF EXPERTS AND SCHOLARS, ETC." HE NOTED THAT SINCE LAST YEAR 19 PERSONS HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OF SPYING AND 22 MORE ARE UNDER INVESTIGATION.

7. AFTERWARD, FEDERAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR VUKO GOCE-VUCETIC
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TOLD CHAMBER THAT LAST YEAR MOST ATTENTION WAS DEVOTED TO ORGANIZED POLITICAL CRIMINALS BECAUSE OF THE DANGER THEY POSE DUE TO THEIR CONNECTION WITH ENEMIES OUTSIDE OF THE COUNTRY. GOCE-VUCETIC STATED THAT POLITICAL CRIMES AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL WAS MINIMAL (TANJUG REPORTED 0.4 PERCENT OF TOTAL OF MORE THAN 500,000 CASES WHICH PUBLIC PROSECUTORS HANDLED IN 1975), AND THAT THE NUMBER OF ALL POLITICAL CRIMES, EXCEPT THOSE ORGANIZED "AGAINST THE PEOPLE AND THE STATE" DECLINED. HE ADMITTED THAT LATTER RECORDED SLIGHT INCREASE WITH ALMOST ALL PERPETRATORS ACTING IN COLLUSION WITH "HOSTILE EMIGRE GROUPS ABROAD." TANJUG TERMS THESE GROUPS AS "COMINFORM EMIGRES AND THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF USTASHI-TERRORIST, IRREDENTIST, NATIONALISTIC, AND OTHER COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS."

8. COMMENT: CLEARLY MENTION OF "CERTAIN FORCES" SUPPORTING COMINFORMISTS AS WELL AS SOME OF WHRESLG ON SPYING CHARGES RELATED TO "FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES" ARE REFERENCES TO SOVIETS. OTHER NATIONS, INCLUDING U.S., ARE MEANT TO SEE THEMSELVES ALSO SINGLED OUT, AS FOR EXAMPLE PERMITTING "FASCIST EMIGRANTS" TO FUNCTION FREELY. EQUALLY NOTEWORTHY IS SENSITIVITY DEMONSTRATED BY HERLJEVIC'S EARLY REBUTTAL OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC CRITICISM FOR REPRESSION OF FREEDOM INSIDE YUGOSLAVIA.

WE ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM VALIDITY OF NUMBERS USED BY HERLJEVIC, BUT NOTE THAT AT LEAST IN "SPYING" CATEGORY, ARRESTS TOTAL MORE THAN WE ARE AWARE OF THROUGH YUGOSLAV MEDIA. WE ARE ALSO INTRIGUED BY REFERENCE TO "COOPERATION WITH SECURITY ORGANS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES...ALREADY PRODUCING GOOD RESULTS." IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHETHER HERLJEVIC HAS IN MIND LONG TERM COOPERATION WITH SOME BLOC AND NEIGHBORLY SECURITY SERVICES, AD HOC COOPERATION ON HIGH-LEVEL VISITS OR OTHER ONE TIME GALAS, OR NEWER FORM OF COOPERATION IN NATIONS LIKE FRG AND FRANCE WHERE ANTY-GOY EMIGRE GROUPS ARE ABLE TO FUNCTION. WOULD ASSUME THAT HERLJEVIC WAS THINKING OF DAPCEVIC HEIST AS AT LEAST ONE EXAMPLE OF THIS FORM OF COOPERATION. SILBERMAN

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